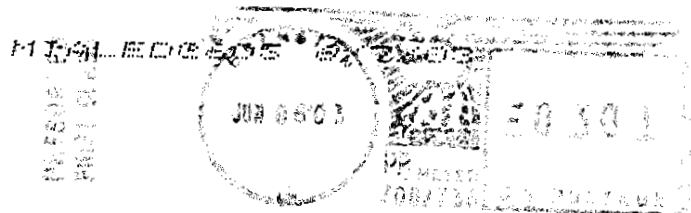


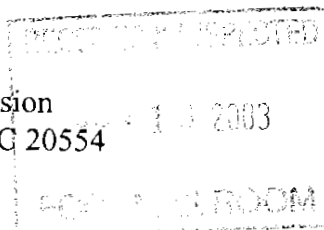


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Mr. Michael Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554



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NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

June 6, 2003

Mr. Michael Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am extremely disappointed in the vote that the FCC just completed, abandoning any principle of fairness or public responsibility by giving carte blanche to large media companies. It seems to me that the FCC's responsibility is not to the large corporations that in fact own nearly all of the public media, but rather to the citizenry and taxpayers in the United States. I believe that the action taken by the FCC was cynical, counterproductive, irresponsible and cowardly.

I understand the importance of free markets, and also the ideology behind your commitment to free markets. I also understand that thoughtful public servants do not abandon public property in an ideologically based and irresponsible fashion. I believe that the FCC has done great harm to our country.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Ratner
Morrison Professor of Chemistry
MR:dk